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GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(The National Geographic Society is a scientific and educational Society, wholly altruistic, incorporated as a non-commercial institution for the increase of geographic knowledge and its popular diffusion. General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.)

No index is included in No. 30 of the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS. This volume will run through No. 42, in which the index will appear, on May 15, 1944.

February 14, 1944. Vol. XXII. No. 30.

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2. Bombed Caroline Islands Hold Strong Jap Bases
3. Science Cuts Gamble on Wildcat Oil Wells
4. Fighting Druses a Factor in Middle East Unrest
5. Geo-Graphic Brevities

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Willard Price

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GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETIN

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

The Geographic School Bulletins are published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) and will be mailed to teachers in the United States and its possessions for one year upon receipt of 25 cents (stamps or money order); in Canada, 50 cents. Originally entered as second-class matter January 27, 1922; re-entered as of April 27, 1943, Post Office, Washington, D. C., under Act of March 3, 1879. Copyright, 1943, by National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C. International copyright secured. All rights reserved. Quedan reservados todos los derechos.

Rich, Productive Argentina Last to Break Axis Ties

ARGENTINA, last Latin American country to break off relations with the Axis, is a nation of more than thirteen and a half million people, rich in food resources and valuable raw materials. Ranking after Brazil, Argentina is South America's second-largest republic. It covers more than a million square miles. Its long coastline, overlooking the war-vital traffic lanes of the South Atlantic, extends for more than 2,000 miles.

United Nations Top Customers

The bulk of Argentina's foreign trade is already ranged on the side of the United Nations—the result of economic agreements made through Great Britain and the United States, and the wartime blockade against Japan and Nazi-occupied Europe.

In August, 1943, Britain negotiated for the United Nations a contract providing for a million and a half tons of Argentine beef, nearly 450,000,000 eggs, and large supplies of dairy products. The United States has arranged to buy, in the name of the United Nations, Argentina's entire exportable surplus of sunflower-seed oil, and shelled peanuts from the 1943-44 crop.

Foreign trade figures since the outbreak of war have indicated certain economic relations between Argentina and Axis countries. Argentina's imports from Italy and Japan fell sharply between 1941 and 1942. Those from Germany showed a slight increase, although the increased figure (less than $1,750,000) is extremely small compared with prewar German-Argentine trade.

During the first ten months of 1943 Argentina's import-export trade with all three belligerents took a sharp tumble. Argentina's imports from Germany, for example, fell to a value of only $79,250; exports to Germany were less than $7,750. Exports to Italy completely disappeared. Japanese 1943 purchases were listed at little more than $1,750 as against the pre-Pearl Harbor high figure (1941) of more than 6,000 times that amount.

Trade Grows with Neighboring Countries

These wartime trade figures are subject to special qualifications. While some of the Axis traffic slipped past the blockade, the major proportion of the trade represented goods already in Argentine warehouses but recorded only on later withdrawals. In addition, the figures included supplies permitted passage by the Allies because of prewar commitments, or shipped by way of neutral ports.

Normally, Argentina depends largely on Europe for its export markets and for many of its necessary imports. Britain is the biggest buyer of Argentine beef, corn, and wheat, with Germany, Belgium, and the Netherlands trailing. The United States usually ranks second in Argentina's trade, occasionally running ahead of Britain in supplying automobiles, mass-production articles, and specialty goods. Although Uncle Sam still bans Argentina's fresh meat and livestock, he takes much canned meat. Wool, hides, linseed, dairy products, and tanning extract from quebracho are other important items on commodity lists.

Argentina has somewhat made up for drastic cuts in trade with continental Europe by increased trade with other South American countries, with neutral Sweden and Switzerland, the Union of South Africa, and Spain. Argentina's books for 1942 showed the highest export trade balance, in value, since 1937.

UMI

© *Charles d'Emery*

ARGENTINA MATCHES HUGE RANCHES AND BIG MODERN CITIES WITH A SUMMER RESORT EQUALLY MODERN AND BIG

Argentina, land of superlatives, matches with a super-modern summer resort her other extremes—cattle ranches stretching, seemingly endless, over the pampas; grain fields covering miles of territory; many cities with thousands of inhabitants. On the South Atlantic, 250 miles south of Buenos Aires, Mar del Plata serves as a playground for thousands of holiday seekers from the capital and other big cities. Begun in 1874, the seashore city's blend of old and very new makes it like a combination of old Newport, California's Santa Monica, and, for modern design adapted to an oceanside playground, Long Island's Jones Beach. While the United States is shivering and slipping through its icy, windy winter, the height of Argentina's summer season brings as many as a quarter of a million people to Mar del Plata. They come by sea and land; their thousands of automobiles are stowed away in, among other places, a gigantic parking lot tucked under a swimming pool (right). Small pyramid-roofed bathhouses mark the wide beach into hollow squares (Bulletin No. 1).

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General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Bombed Caroline Islands Hold Strong Jap Bases

THE Caroline Islands, now receiving periodic attacks by American bombers, are a cluster of coral and volcanic islands whose big attraction is Truk, the strongest base in Japan's mandate of Micronesia. Kusaie, the first of the islands to be hit, is at the extreme eastern end of the 1,800-mile-long island chain. It lies halfway between Tarawa, recently captured American base in the Gilberts, and Truk.

If the Carolines (including the Palau group at the extreme west) were placed over a map of the United States, they would reach from Baltimore to Denver. Yet their aggregate area is one-third less than that of Rhode Island.

The 500-odd islands of the group vary from tiny atolls and reefs to sizable areas with high mountains, streams, fertile fields, and thickly clustered villages. The big five of the Carolines are Ponape, Truk, Palau, Kusaie, and Yap.

Islands Within Large Lagoons

Ponape, in the eastern Carolines, is the largest of all Japan's mandated islands. It has an area of 130 square miles, and its hills rise to elevations of 2,000 feet and more. An encircling coral reef encloses a spacious front-yard lagoon around the island, about which some 50 smallers islands and islets are dotted. In addition to the islanders, Ponape's population has been increased by a limited immigration of Japanese (illustration, cover).

Truk, instead of an island surrounded by a lagoon, is a large lagoon containing many islands. Within Truk's coral reef is a lagoon 40 miles across of incalculable value for naval use. The largest of the 245 islets lie in the southern part of the lagoon.

Kusaie is a garden spot of the South Seas. It was discovered by American seamen and for a while it was known as Strong Island. Forested and hilly, it produces valuable timbers for shipbuilding. Its level places are extremely fertile. Bully Hayes, one of the last of the Pacific buccaneers, brought terror and ruin on Kusaie with his shipwrecked crew, which made the island their home until they were driven off by a British warship. The island once supported many people, but the population has shrunk to a few hundred.

Yap Is the Funny-Money Island

The Kanakas of the Carolines are a mixed race of Polynesian, Melanesian, and Malayan stocks. The Chamorro tribesmen have some Spanish blood. The people differ from island to island, especially in beliefs and customs. Yap islanders are known for their stone money—huge disks resembling millstones sometimes reaching 12 feet in diameter. These "coins" never jingle a-pocket, but are planted in front of the high-gabled *pa-bais,* or community houses. They are valued because such stone does not exist on Yap; it must be imported.

The Carolines, along with the Marshalls and Marianas, comprise the mandated islands placed under Japanese administration by the League of Nations. They had belonged to Germany from 1899, and before that to Spain. Natives show the results of these changes in their speech. Youngsters greet one another in the morning with "Ohayo," their parents say "Guten morgen," and old-timers use the Spanish "Buenos dias."

Latest available figures placed population of the Carolines at 42,000, of which 6,000 were Japanese. Many Japs were imported to work on coconut plantations

UMI

Although stock raising and farming are still the lifeblood of Argentina's national economy, city-building industry has grown rapidly in recent years (illustration, inside cover). It is an odd geographic fact that this nation of vast ranches and horizon-reaching grain fields is also one of big cities. Nearly half its people live in centers of more than 100,000 inhabitants. Buenos Aires, with roughly one-quarter of the entire population of the country, has about one-third of Argentina's more than 50,000 industrial plants. Meat packing, centered there, has become the leading industry as a result of the favorable conditions for cattle and sheep raising, plus the development of refrigeration which makes it possible to export formerly perishable animal products. Flour and textile mills, sugar refineries, wineries, tanning, and shoe-manufacturing establishments indicate an increase in Argentina's industrial activity.

The Western Hemisphere's "deep south" republic lacks coal and iron for the development of heavy industry. It supplies, however, more than 65 per cent of its large petroleum needs, making efficient use of rationing, and substitute fuels.

Especially significant in war-hungry markets are Argentina's wool for uniforms and blankets; hides for military boots; food for armies fighting around the world. Its tungsten, for hardening steel, antimony for use in cartridges, bullets, and batteries, have acquired special importance with many prewar sources cut off.

Note: Argentina is shown on the National Geographic Society's Map of South America. A price list of maps may be obtained from the Society's Washington, D. C., headquarters.

For additional information, see "Buenos Aires: Queen of the River of Silver," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for November, 1939*; "Life on the Argentine Pampa," October, 1933; and, in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, December 7, 1942, "Argentina, Land of Peak and Pampa." (*Issues marked by an asterisk are included in a special list of Magazines available to teachers at 10¢ each in groups of ten.*)

Bulletin No. 1, February 14, 1944.

Alfred T. Palmer

YOUNG ARGENTINA'S PARK PONIES ARE SHAGGY LLAMAS

To Argentine boys at the Buenos Aires zoo, riding llama-back is a treat, but no more strange to them than riding pony-back is to North American boys. The young rider at the head of the procession (left) appears pleased to be riding his shaggy steed. Big brother, leaning casually against the animal, looks bored. Perhaps it's sour grapes—he may think he is too heavy, and the llama has his own characteristic way of remedying that grievance. When he thinks he is overloaded he simply lies down and refuses to move.

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Published Weekly by

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General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Science Cuts Gamble on Wildcat Oil Wells

WILDCATS are getting tamer. This is not a note for zoologists, but for oil prospectors. The drilling of more wildcat wells—holes in "wild" areas not proved to have petroleum deposits—has recently been urged by economists as of great importance to the United States. A steady supply of such prospecting wells is needed to discover new oil fields to make up for those that are running dry.

Science to the Rescue

Not many years ago drilling of a wildcat well was almost a pure gamble. Wildcatters punctured pastures and prairies for no better reasons than wishful thoughts or hunches. If a dry hole resulted—as it did about nine times out of ten—the risk-taker was out of luck—usually out of the wildcatting business as well.

Gradually big oil companies got into wildcatting—directly, or by grubstaking individuals. In the latter case the prospector is saved by a company's backing from money loss occasioned by dry holes, and lives to wildcat another day.

Oil companies, eager to make wildcatting less risky, and able to finance research, turned to science for help. They sent physicists—short-haired professors in boots and corduroys—into the mud and dust of Texas, Oklahoma, and California to work out the problems. In the last ten years especially they have developed such efficient methods and instruments that wildcat wells are only about a quarter the risk they once were. This is important in dollars and cents for it costs from $10,000 to $40,000 or more to drill a well, depending on the depth and the character of the rock pierced.

Several methods are followed in seeking favorable sites. Those which make use of physics are known as geophysical surveys. The aim is to find out, from the surface, as much as possible about rocks 2,000, 5,000, and even 10,000 feet down. Particularly, surveyors seek evidences of special formations and structures that may form "traps" for oil. Such traps are often found near places where rock layers have been broken or bent.

Man-Made Earthquakes Give Tip-Off

Quick preliminary surveys are made in many areas by use of gravity. Field parties make readings with truck-mounted instruments. At each point they "weigh" a patch of ground, immediately beneath the instrument, extending thousands of feet down. Areas that "weigh" more than normal—that exert a greater gravity pull on the instrument—can be interpreted as possible oil traps.

"Shooting" is the most widely used of geophysical procedures (illustration, next page). Officially, it is the "seismic method." Dynamite is exploded to make little earthquakes and interpretation of the earth waves reflected back to the surface from underground rock formations indicates the prospect of oil. Parties take into the field a small rotary drill on a truck, hundreds of pounds of dynamite, small seismographs with which to detect the man-made quakes, and a recording truck in which jiggles of the instruments are captured as wavy lines.

The seismographs are little brothers of the big instruments, installed in a few laboratories around the world, which register natural earthquakes.

The dynamite-created earth waves start from the bottom of holes 50 to 60 feet deep, on the average. The charges of explosive vary from one to one hundred pounds. Several seismographs arranged in a line, a few hundred feet apart, are

UMI

and in phosphate mines because the natives could not be counted on for a day's work. As long as coconut and breadfruit trees and the sea provide all the necessities of life, the Kanaka considers money an unworthy motive for working.

The breadfruit tree's melon-shaped fruit is the potato of the Kanaka. Taro roots and yams provide other starch foods. Fish and pigs furnish meat. Coconut palms supply building material for homes and provide food and drink. Bamboo is used extensively, for walls and floors of houses (illustration, below), for baskets and other household gear.

For the commercial market, Japan has wrested from this Pacific Garden of Eden only copra and phosphate.

Note: The Caroline Islands are shown in a large-scale inset on the Society's Map of the Pacific Ocean.

For further information about these islands, see "Hidden Key to the Pacific," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for June, 1942*; and "Mysterious Micronesia," April, 1936*.

See also the following GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS: "Japan's Condemned Empire Was 50 Years in the Making," January 3, 1944; "Truk, Jap Naval Base, Casts War Clouds over Pacific" (Geo-Graphic Brevity), May 17, 1943; and "New Guinea to Tokyo: Pacific Path of Island Steppingstones," April 5, 1943.

Bulletin No. 2, February 14, 1944.

Willard Price

SUPERSTITIONS MULTIPLY COOKSTOVES—AND WOMAN'S WORK—IN THE CAROLINES

On Palau, in the Caroline Islands, every member of the family must have a separate fire for his separate pot of dinner—that is, everyone except the women of the household. This inconvenient superstition—that if a man does not have his own individual fire he will be a slave of woman—multiplies the women's work by the number of men in the family. The cook must dash from cookstove to cookstove, giving a stir here and a poke there to the stews of taro, yams, and pork simmering in their own special cooking pots. The timeworn saying that woman's work is never done might well have originated in these far Pacific islands, although housecleaning there must be comparatively simple and easy. The stoves are set up on earthen spaces left unfloored by the bamboo that carpets the rest of the hut. No chimney is necessary—the smoke drifts out through the slits in the airy bamboo walls.

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Fighting Druses a Factor in Middle East Unrest

JEBEL ED DRUZ in the southwestern corner of the Levant States—popularly called Syria—now occupied by Allied forces, is one of the small territories asking the Allied powers for independence. Slightly larger than Delaware, this would-be nation has a population of 50,000.

The Levant States at the eastern end of the Mediterranean had been mandated to France in 1920, when Palestine and Trans-Jordan to the south and Iraq to the east were mandated to Great Britain. The French High Commission ruling the Levant mandate had its headquarters at Beirut. When Nazi influence in France strengthened the possibility of German infiltration in the mandate as well, Allied forces occupied the Levant States in June, 1941. The Vichy French administration retired and left the British and Fighting French authorities in control.

Their Only Business Is Fighting

Jebel ed Druz is the smallest of the Levant States, surpassed by Syria, Lebanon, and Latakia. Its name means "Mountain of the Druses."

The people of Jebel ed Druz are the Druses, presumed to be of Kurd and Armenian ancestry. Their religious beliefs set them apart as a small exclusive sect, tolerating no renegades, permitting no intermarriage with unbelievers.

The Druses live by agriculture and herding; yet the men boast that they know no trades, that they are fighters only. They employ masons from Lebanon to build their houses of black basaltic rock. They hire Bedouins to herd their flocks. Olive orchards and vineyards are relatively numerous in their territory. Their fields produce wheat of a superior quality which has been credited to the dust of the crumbling lava rock which forms the base of the fertile soil of their high, treeless plateau.

The Druse capital is Soueida, a town of 5,000 people. A railway connects it with Damascus to the north in Syria, and with Amman in Trans-Jordan to the south and Haifa in Palestine to the west. Damascus is normally their trading center.

Like many neighboring towns of the eastern Mediterranean's hinterland, Soueida stands on the site of an ancient Roman settlement. Many of its buildings are grafted onto the ruins of earlier structures. Under Turkish rule Soueida had a mosque. Now no dome or minaret is seen in this stronghold of a secret sect.

Capital Sits on Old Volcano

Soueida is situated on the west side of the Jebel, a volcanic mass which gives Jebel ed Druz its name. The formation extends north and south for about 30 miles, with several peaks, the highest of which is 5,791 feet. Around it are many volcanic cones of less prominence.

North of the Jebel is the Ledja region, which extends beyond the frontiers of Jebel ed Druz toward Damascus. The Ledja is a wilderness of cracked lava 600 or 700 feet deep, containing many caves which formed natural fortresses for the Druses in their years of conflict with the Turks. The Ledja was once the hideout of robber bands.

East of the Ledja is the desert of Kra, which extends from the Jebel to the Safa ("Naked Mountain"), a hump of extinct volcanoes on the northeast border. The eastern part of the Druse territory, south of Kra, is the Harra ("Burnt

UMI

set up on the ground, the farthest often not over 1,000 feet from the explosion point, to record the success or failure of the search.

Once a well is drilled, electricity—one of physics' most potent tools—makes sure that no possible oil production level shall be missed. While mud still fills the well, and before the hole is lined with pipe, three insulated cables are lowered to the bottom. The ends, uninsulated, are separated.

As the cables (one of them carrying an electric current) are drawn up the well, instruments at the surface trace lines that indicate the kind of rock layer opposite the cable ends at any depth. The rocks identify themselves by the differences in their resistance to the passage of electricity. Rocks containing gas and oil are most resistant. One traced line shows resistance; another shows whether the rock is hard and tight or open and porous. If the traces indicate that a layer is both porous and highly resistant, it is probably a loose sandstone saturated with oil or gas—the condition necessary for a producing well.

Note: For additional information on oil, see "Today's World Turns on Oil," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for June, 1941; and "So Oklahoma Grew Up," March, 1941.

Bulletin No. 3, February 14, 1944.

The Texas Co. by Robert Yarnall Richie

A WILDCAT'S ROAR IN OKLAHOMA MAY MEAN FUEL FOR ROARING WAR PLANES

This geyser shooting into the air is not an oil well—it is a preliminary step in locating one. The scientific oil prospector, with seismograph crew and equipment, has picked a location in oil-rich Oklahoma and set off a charge of dynamite which starts a small artificial earthquake. The vibrations are recorded on the seismograph on a truck parked at some distance. The instant of the explosion is marked down to within one-thousandth of a second—a degree of accuracy too fine for slow-moving sound waves and human ears. Insulated wire extends from truck to dynamite. The explosion breaks a circuit, instantaneously marking a moving band of photographic film. The seismograph next picks up the quake's waves which cause light beams to vibrate, thus tracing paths on the film. The record is developed in a truck darkroom. To a layman the marks seem a meaningless jumble of jagged lines, but to a professional oil man they are telltale messages which may say "drill here."

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Geo-Graphic Brevities

BRAZIL'S BABASSU NUT BUSINESS MAY COMPETE WITH COFFEE

BABASSU—this strange nut is likely to become familiar some day because it is very versatile. After the war babassu may wash your face, butter your bread, heat your home, run your postwar jeep, feed your cattle, serve you in a score of ways. Today, with normal supplies of coconut oil and copra cut by Jap occupation of Pacific islands, the uses of babassu oil are fixed by government war-agency order.

The babassu is a tall fan-shaped palm tree that thrives in northern Brazil. It bears in large clusters a nut about the size and shape of a lemon. Each nut contains two to six finger-shaped kernels from which a very useful oil can be pressed.

Babassu oil is a good lubricant. Smooth, yellowish, and pleasant to taste, it is also an excellent substitute for olive oil, for lard, for coconut oil in margarine. It is used in soaps, salves, varnishes, artificial silks, and many other modern chemical products. After yielding two-thirds of their weight as oil, the pressed kernels make meal cakes for livestock.

Babassu made its commercial start in World War I, in Brazil. The whole nuts were found to make heat much like coal and husks were converted into coke. Various useful acids, dyes, and oils are by-products of babassu coke distillation.

Although the United States imported 50,000 tons in 1939 for use in many industries, several of its uses are not even known in this country except by report from Brazil. In that largest South American republic, which produces no petroleum, and where many alternates for gasoline have been tested, babassu oil has recently been used as fuel for internal combustion engines.

The pith of the nut supplies a yellowish powder used to flavor drinks and as gruel for invalids and infants. The hard shell is used for buttons and trinkets of "vegetable ivory."

The whole nut when burned green produces the thick smoke needed to promote coagulation of latex. Leaves, stems, and trunks of the babassu palm are used in hats, baskets, and sacks, and in building and roofing jungle dwellings.

The babassu blankets huge areas of Brazil south and southeast of the Amazon with an estimated 13 billion trees. At least 13 trillion of these nuts grow each year. They are easily harvested by being picked up from the ground where they fall when ripe.

Two obstacles retard the babassu trade. First—lack of railroads and highways in regions where the palms are thickest. This obstacle can be overcome. Second—no one has yet devised a more efficient method of cracking the hard babassu nuts than the native procedure of resting the nut on the upturned blade of an ax and striking it with a wooden mallet. The man who invents a super babassu nutcracker will do for babassu what Eli Whitney did for cotton. He will bring the dawn of a new day to Brazil's economic life, and give coffee a great trade rival.

* * * * *

TOBACCO IS MONEY IN NEW GUINEA

AMERICAN twist tobacco is doing double duty in the southwest Pacific. It passes from hand to mouth as chews, and from hand to hand as money.

Through Lend-Lease channels 700,000 pounds of dark Kentucky twist (illus-

UMI

Land"), a sandy waste crossed by empty stream beds and two trails.

The Druses for some time had made their home in valleys of south Lebanon, but when the massacre of Christians in 1860—in which Druses are supposed to have participated—brought European intervention, the Druses began moving eastward into the uplands, where they were comparatively safe. There they found a mountain stronghold, healthful climate, fertile land, and ruins for building material. Many remained in Lebanon; nearly 10,000 now dwell in Palestine.

Founded in the 11th century, the Druse religion holds that God has revealed himself in human form ten times, last in Cairo in 1030 A.D. While other religions worship the earlier incarnations, the Druses revere the latest, an Egyptian of Russian ancestry known as Al-Hakim Bi'amrillahi. Most of their religious tenets are closely guarded secrets. Druses reject prayer as presumptuous interference with the divine will. They are permitted to conform outwardly to other faiths.

Women are permitted to wear gold and silver ornaments, silk and brocade, but they must be veiled. The men are garbed in black underrobes with white girdles, with rolls of white cloth around their red fezzes (illustration, below).

Note: Jebel ed Druz is shown on the Society's Map of Central Europe and the Mediterranean. For additional information, see "Change Comes to Bible Lands," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for December, 1938*, and "Secrets from Syrian Hills," July, 1933*.

Bulletin No. 4, February 14, 1944.

Maynard Owen Williams

WAITING FOR HIS NUMBER TO BE CALLED

This handsome, smiling Druse, whose fighting days are over, belongs to a religion which makes no converts, permits no backsliding, or intermarriage with unbelievers. The Druses believe that at death they are instantly reincarnated in a new-born infant, so that their number always remains unchanged.

tration, below) was recently sent to Australian troops for use in bartering with islanders who know nothing of British pounds or American dollars. The twist carries its own password. If an airman has to bail out, and plops down among cagey bushmen, he will need food and a guide. With a few tobacco twists he can make a deal and be on his way to rejoin his unit.

How New Guinea's back-jungle islanders learned about tobacco is indicated by names of varieties grown in some parts of the island—"China," "Java," "Manila." The trail goes back to the 17th century, with evidence of introductions from the Philippines, and from Java by way of the Moluccas. Neighboring Amboina was the chief passer.

Variety now in demand is made from dark leaf, twisted in rope fashion, cut in 7-inch lengths, then flattened into sticks one-fourth of an inch thick and one-half inch wide.

Use of tobacco as money is nearly as old as its cultivation. With Colonial Virginians it matched gold as legal tender. It became common currency, freely passed in payment for goods and services, was accepted for taxes, fines, and other dues. Stores and taverns usually had a special warehouse as a till for nature's coinage, since it was somewhat bulky to store in a desk.

Regarded "as good as gold," tobacco upset the established pattern of Colonial life. Growing it was viewed as the easy road to riches. Carpenters, who were paid 30 pounds of leaf a day, discarded their traditional tools and turned to the hoe as a means to fortune. Seamen left their ships to try their luck on the land. Physicians left patients, to treat the soil of their tobacco patches. Servants bought their freedom with tobacco savings.

Bulletin No. 5, February 14, 1944.

Volkmar Wentzel

KENTUCKY GROWS BROWN-GOLD MONEY FOR PACIFIC BATTLE REGIONS

This wide-wheeled, tire-less planter is the mint that coins tobacco money for trading between Yanks in the Pacific battle areas and resident tribesmen. Taking the place of United States dollars and cents, and British pounds and pence—which are so many meaningless bits of paper and metal to the islanders—Kentucky's brown-gold tobacco twists are legal tender down in those faraway regions where Allied forces are blasting Japs out of their island strongholds. The seedlings, planted by machinery in the blue grass region near Lexington, can grow up to take their part in the war against the Axis.

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